

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 037412  
ORIGIN IO-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: IO/UNP:BFOPPEL

APPROVED BY: IO:MESWOPE

-----180628 086678 /21

R 180039Z FEB 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4241

UNCLAS STATE 037412

FOLLOWIIG REPEAT GENEVA 852 ACTION SECSTATE INFO  
BOGOTA QUITO DTD 07 FEB

QTE

UNCLAS GENEVA 852

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, ITU, EC, CO

SUBJECT: ITU CONFERENCE: GEOSYNCHRONOUS ORBITS

REF: QUITO 811 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF US REP'S STATEMENT.

BEGIN TEXT:

CLAIMS HAVE BEEN ADVANCED AT THE PRESENT CONFERENCE THAT THOSE  
PORTIONS OF GEOSYNCHRONOUS ORBITAL POSITIONS LYING OVER LAND  
SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS WITHIN THE AIRSPACE OR OTHERWISE WITHIN  
THE NATIONAL JURISDICTION OF THE SUBJACENT STATE.

THE UNITED STATES SHARES THE VIEW THAT THIS MATTER IS  
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OUTSIDE OF THE COMPETENCE OF THIS CONFERENCE. THE QUESTION  
OF SOVEREIGNTY OF THE GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT IS NOT INCLUDED IN  
THE AGENDA FOR THIS CONFERENCE AND IT SHOULD NOT THEREFORE BE  
DISCUSSED.

REGARDING THE SUBSTANCE OF THE CLAIMS, THE UNITED STATES  
DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CON-

REFERENCE THE VIEW OF ITS GOVERNMENT THAT GEOSYNCHRONOUS AS WELL AS OTHER ORBITS OF ARTIFICIAL EARTH SATELLITES LIE IN OUTER SPACE BEYOND NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, AND, IN THE WORDS OF ARTICLE II OF THE 1967 OUTER SPACE TREATY, ARE THEREFORE "NOT SUBJECT TO NATIONAL APPROPRIATION BY CLAIM OF SOVEREIGNTY, BY MEANS OF USE OR OCCUPATION, OR BY ANY OTHER MEANS."

ARTICLE I OF THAT TREATY SPECIFICALLY STATES THAT "OUTER SPACE INCLUDING THE MOON AND OTHER CELESTIAL BODIES, SHALL BE FREE FOR EXPLORATION AND USE BY ALL STATES WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION OF ANY KIND, ON A BASIS OF EQUALITY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW..." IN VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, BOTH THE CODIFICATION OF AND PRACTICE UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW, INCLUDING THE 1967 TREATY, CLEARLY ESTABLISH THAT THE AREA WHERE GEOSYNCHRONOUS SATELLITES MAY BE POSITIONED IS BEYOND ANY NATIONAL TERRITORY OR SOVERIEGN JURISDICTION.

END TEXT.

2. COLOMBIA REP CONTINUES MAKE SPEECHES IN PLENARY MEETINGS. CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN HAS MERELY NOTED AND PASSED ON TO OTHER BUSINESS. COLOMBIA AND ECUADOR HAVE PUBLISHED NEW CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS BUT NOTHING NEW IN SUBSTANCE. ITU DEP SEC GEN BELIEVES ISSUES MAY BE DEBATED AGAIN IN PLENARY ON THURSDAY: THERE SOME INDICATIONS THAT CONSIDERABLE OPPOSITION MAY BE EVIDENCED AT THAT TIME. CATTO UNQTE HARTMAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CLAIMS, TEXT, COMMUNICATION SATELLITES, SPACE STATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ORIGIN IO  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 QUITO 811  
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**TAGS:** ETEL, EC, CO, ITU  
**To:** USUN NEW YORK  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009